

CNN - JOHN F. KENNEDY JR. FUNERAL (7-23-1999)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w> (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w>)

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From Friday, July 23rd, 1999 CNN Live coverage of the funeral of John F. Kennedy Jr., Kennedy along with His wife Carolyn and her sister Lauren had died on Friday, July 16th, 1999 when Kennedy's Piper Saratoga crashed into the Atlantic ocean on it's way to Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. The crash occurred at 9:41 P.M E.T. The service was held at St. Thomas More Church in New York City.

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creation is lived by them father down you know going to interrupt you just a moment here this is the motorcade bringing president bill clinton and first lady hillary rodham clinton their daughter chelsea we were told that traveling with him from washington on air force one is a member of the kennedy family the lieutenant governor of the state of maryland kathleen kennedy townsend and her husband you can watch now to see who emerges from this car jeff we're told and bernie we're told that the the first family invited lieutenant governor townsend and her husband david to fly with them to new york city kathleen kennedy had been at the family compound last weekend to get ready for the celebration of her youngest sister's wedding and we know what happened after that here we see first lady hillary clinton the president their daughter chelsea and and others entering the church and in a gesture to this family the first family has brought a photo album to give to the kennedys and we recall the president at his news conference this week indicating that showing his appreciation for the personal tour he had received at the white house john f kennedy jr sent the president an autographed picture his favorite picture of his father the late president kennedy you know uh bernie and judy it i suppose it wouldn't entirely be a kennedy event even a funeral without mentioning a political dimension to this there has

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a political dimension to this there has been some talk about because of hillary rodham clinton's interest in the new york senate seat um they are at the funeral the governor of new york the mayor of new york who may be your opponent or not because it's a private event and i suppose to some extent there's an element of reassurance that even at this most solid moment there are people looking for political portents in who is and who was not inside this church today well by their mere presence uh statements are being made well with this with this family there's always going to be a reading of the political tea leaves if you will it's also a tradition if you go back to boston politics uh there's a wonderful novel called the last hurrah by edwin o'connor written in the early 50s about boston politics where at wakes politics is always a principal source of conversation and it is a way of reaffirming life in the presence of death i mean people may be offended in other cultures but in fact in many cultures that's how you come to grips with death is to turn toward the living and to the very secular business of of office even in the midst of grief it may puzzle some people but i think it's entirely natural our white house correspondent john king joins us from the white house john uh how did the president of the first lady happen to be invited to this service they were told in a conversation with senator edward kennedy and in a conversation the president had with caroline kennedy flossberg the president said he would attend but only if the family wanted him there we're told both the senator and john kennedy junior sister caroline expressed the will that they very much would like not only the president but the first lady and chelsea clinton to come during her stops on martha's vineyard we very rarely know much about

chelsea clinton's travels she goes off on her own but we're told by aides and friends here that during her visits to martha's vineyard she spent some time with john and carolyn kennedy considered them friends but they offered her advice on growing up in the public spotlight the media spotlight so the first family invited today the president has no speaking

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president has no speaking role we're told he'll just attend the ceremonies then he heads back to washington he did bring with him we're told a photo album he will present to the families most of the pictures in that album were told from a march 1998 tour that he gave to john kennedy jr and carolyn kennedy bessette they were here at the white house for an event marking an hbo movie on the space program john kennedy spoke about his late father's role in pushing the united states to land on the moon the president then gave them a very private and we're told personal tour of the white house residents photos from that tour and from other social events they attended here at the white house in an album the president will present to the families today john uh your white house colleague chris black is at the church of sir thomas moore chris you are watching uh literally a parade of this kennedy family this is uh the sister of john kennedy jr caroline kennedy schlossberg the older sister who is now the only surviving child of president john kennedy his wife jacqueline she is walking into the church with her husband edwin fosberg in fact they were celebrating their 13th wedding anniversary this past monday at the same time they were mourning the death of her younger brother chris black judy caroline kennedy schlossberg has probably had the worst loss of any member of the family she was extremely close to her brother and she is also one of the most private members of this very public family i'm told that this service will very much bear her a stamp it has been her insistence that the church that the service beheld is saint thomas moore a very small church the manhattan equivalent of a neighborhood church if you will where her mother jacqueline kennedy onassis worship so we will see

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onassis worship so we will see that this will be more private than public uh of celebration of the life of this very private but very public man judy edward klein kennedy biographer caroline occupies obviously the soul she is the sole survivor of the the president john kennedy's family edward klein and she has very much uh followed a path of her own making that's very true judy uh you know caroline probably was more affected by her father's assassination than was john who was really too young to remember it in fact jackie told me that caroline remembered everything and john remembered nothing caroline's first words of more than one syllable were wisconsin new hampshire and west virginia the states that her father was traveling in in order to get the nomination of the democratic party when he came home from his uh travel he made up a story for caroline the pres the president to be dead uh about a white shark that ate people's socks and caroline would say to her father where's the shark daddy and he would say oh i think he's over there in the corner waiting for somebody's socks they were very very close his death affected her profoundly and i think shaped her character for the rest of her life she certainly has a strong passion and for privacy in fact she even wrote a book about the right of privacy she wrote two books in the she wrote one book called in our defense the first amendment in action and then a book called privacy bernie as you just said and in both cases i think the theme of the books these two books was the the god-given

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these two books was the the god-given right of people to control their own lives uh and not be uh manipulated by or intruded in by the the media i think she's put up as thick a wall as anybody we know as any famous person we know between herself and the media and has in fact succeeded in living a relatively normal life as a mother and wife and yet ed what's interesting to me is that it seemed that john kennedy put up less of a wall than either his mother or sister he seemed the couple of times that i saw him and what i hear is that he was a little he wore it with a little more sort of humor irony he knew that he was john kennedy's son he knew he was stared at every minute but he seemed a little more willing to say okay i'll take that price i'll be out in public i will i will be part of new york's life i will not i will not pull back as much do

you have that same sense that he was a little less that wall was a little less high in his case i certainly do jeff uh you know it's instructive that john kennedy seriously considered becoming an actor and his mother put her foot down and told him you're not going to go into acting but he had this desire to play a public role to be seen by the public and to receive back from the public the kind of love and affection that actors get so i think he did make himself much more available than either his mother and certainly a sister outside saint thomas moore church gary tuchman well bernie over the last five days we've seen thousands of people on the streets of new york paying tribute to john kennedy jr this is a new way of doing it we haven't seen this yet this is a children's violin group the terumi violin children foundation for the arts in queens new york playing mournful strains a block away

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playing mournful strains a block away from the church [Music] my [Music] so [Music]

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father john gallon as we listen to these young violinists playing a short distance from the church of saint thomas moore again a church with perhaps i think we're told 15 pews holds maybe around 350 people tell us if you will the difference between a celebratory mass which is what will be observed this morning and a funeral or a memorial mass well judy there really is no difference at all i think that that the word celebratory is being used by the kennedy family quite appropriately to suggest that what the funeral liturgy really is about is a celebration of life that wins out over death and so there really is no difference it's simply a different word but it it does lay emphasis on the positive aspects of the catholic funeral liturgy the difference between a memorial mass and an ordinary funeral mass is simply that the remains of the deceased are not present at the more at the memorial mass and so it's it's called that for that reason it's interesting that um there's a

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it's interesting that um there's a something of a also a coincidental historical connection between the use of this church named after the british saint thomas moore who was executed in 1535 because of conflict in his political position and his faith position that that age-old problem of church and state if you like thomas moore was the lord chancellor of england and got into a big conflict with the king henry viii and finally uh was executed because he held out uh in his faith belief and and it ended in his death he he's famous for his his uh a quote that he gave at the end i die as the king's true servant but god's first it it makes us remember john kennedy's challenge to be to be the first catholic president and he was asked properly and directly does your catholic faith put you in a bad position to be president of the united states and he addressed that i think many will remember notably in his famous address in houston texas in which he said not at all very curiously uh coincidental that that the kennedy family is here today and has been in this church before there's a whole long history of of resolving that conflict and addressing it with uh bravery and courage indeed john king alerted us a short while ago from the white house that uh president clinton bore very special medals john back to you for some further detail bernie the president is carrying three copies of the same photo album one we're told for senator edward kennedy another for caroline kennedy schlossberg

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another for caroline kennedy schlossberg and the third for the bessette family these a compilation of official white house photographs of occasions when john kennedy and his wife carolyn were here at the white house most of the photographs were told from a march 1998 tour the president gave to john kennedy and his wife in there is one very interesting photograph of john kennedy jr his chin resting in his hand gazing up at a portrait of his late father the president in which president kennedy's chin is resting in his hand we're told a number of other photographs in this album that the president will present both to the senator to caroline kennedy and to the bessette family his gift to them at this memorial service an invitation only event here at the saint thomas moore church the president brought a few close friends of the kennedy family with him on air force one including kathleen kennedy townsend the lieutenant governor of maryland andrew cuomo the

housing secretary who was married to one of the late senator robert kennedy's daughters kerry kennedy cuomo also the senate minority leader tom daschle and senator christopher dodd of connecticut a very close friend of senator kennedy here you see the photograph here bernie this is one of the photographs of the three of them carolyn kennedy beset and john kennedy jr glancing up at the portrait of president kennedy we're told there is a more intimate photograph in the album of just john kennedy jr gazing at that same portrait john uh we're going to go back to chris black outside the church bernie the music that this service will very much be music that reflects the life and loves of john kennedy jr caroline kennedy schlossberg was very intent upon making sure that this match of the resurrection reflected the best of her brother in the ad hoc gospel choir or freedom a group from here in new york will be performing during the service and a former member of the fuji's hip-hop rock group uh wycliffe john will be doing a solo less than two years ago at the funeral of his cousin michael andy williams saying ave maria

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maria uh because and that again was because andy williams was a very close friend of the uh of ethel kennedy uh michael kennedy's mother at this service we are uh we will have this gospel choir of freedom and uh white club john for said to reflect the the interest of john kennedy jr bernie there's black outside this outfit jeff greenfield it's my memory that in 1968 andy williams sang at robert kennedy's funeral and at the time wanted to sing ethel kennedy wanted him to sing ave maria and the the powers that he said no that's inappropriate song for this occasion he wound up singing the battle hymn of the of the republic um so i get i guess these details really involve family preferences church preferences it's it's one of those parts in which life goes on no matter how solemn the occasion is that you that you have these questions of what's appropriate to be sung who should be doing it uh but i i take it that this at this event ave maria is going to be sung we are just uh apparently a minute or two away from when this mass is scheduled to begin again no cameras no sound we won't be inside the church nor will any member of the news media as far as we know be inside a note on jacqueline kennedy on nasa's funeral a few years ago at that service invitations were hand delivered guests had to show these invitations at several security checkpoints approaching the church in new york city ignatius loyola a church on park avenue no cameras just one print reporter who was admitted on the condition that he sit in the last pew and speak to no one now we at this point have no idea if there has been an arrangement

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idea if there has been an arrangement such an arrangement made with a reporter print or otherwise but a reflection that uh this is a family determined to preserve privacy and judy also at the the uh jacqueline manassas kennedy funeral sound audio was permitted and we were able to hear the service but that will not be the case as you indicated here today presiding father charles o'byrne who also was the priest who married john kennedy jr and carolyn besette almost three years ago in september of 1996 in a another very private ceremony in a small island off the coast of georgia cumberland island and i would just ask father john dallin you know uh father o'byrne what is his relationship with uh john kennedy jr and carolyn besette well it's true judy uh father o'byrne and i are both jesuit priests and again by coincidence we live in the same jesuit community in new york city it's called america house where the jesuit magazine america is edited every week and father byrne and i are good friends and and we talked this morning and i know that father o'byrne's attitude was um very much celebratory uh full of grief of course but at the same time recognizing the predominance of life over death and that that attitude of his is what he brings to the uh to the celebration of the liturgy today um i'm sure the whole family will be inspired by the kind of thing that he's brought he was a school chum the law school was with one of the kennedys steve and that's where they got to be good friends and that friendship brought him into a relationship with the whole family and um and he and john became quite good friends and as you pointed out he uh presided at the marriage of uh

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uh presided at the marriage of uh john and carolyn in georgia almost three years ago father galen it's jeff greenfield you were mentioning a while ago the symbolism that this is a church named after thomas moore who sort of symbolized the conflict between faith and secular state and it's worth remembering that when john kennedy ran for president that whole question among some people was very much up in the air about whether a catholic president could serve his country first and i'm thinking back that was also the time not only of john kennedy but john the 23rd and how different the whole assumption is about about the the role of a catholic president when robert and ted kennedy ran for president i don't think the religious issue was ever given five seconds of thought because things have changed so much from john kennedy's day jeff jeff you have a very good memory uh and you're raising up of the image of john xxiii really is very appropriate john xxiii brought an attitude to the church that helped to expand and broaden people's vision about what spiritual life was about and what spiritual life in the church was about he was fully a person of the tradition uh but he tried to point out to everyone that the tradition was perhaps a little bit larger than we were always remembering uh uh the the question the challenge of reconciling church state uh is very real and understandably so it was addressed very eloquently uh not uh very long ago by the catholic former uh governor of new york governor mario cuomo he gave an eloquent address uh trying to point out the the elements of the question and uh john kennedy did the same in houston while he was running for president our thanks to our viewers around the world who are joining cnn's live coverage you are looking at the exterior of saint

[00:24:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=1440s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=1440s)

you are looking at the exterior of saint thomas moore church outside cnn correspondent chris black bernie the kennedy and bessette stream and families are very intense that this be a celebration of the lives of john and carolyn kennedy of when john jr was alive he and his sister caroline frequently would mark significant events on their father's birthday rather than on the day he died this is very characteristic of the family they do as father gallon said as as religious catholics believe in eternal life and today as they celebrate in this small church with jacqueline kennedy onassis worship uh before an altar which is decorated with white flowers roses and lilies of the valley they hope to celebrate the lives of these two people they lost bernie yeah does it appear that most of the special people invited to this service have entered the church it does seem that we're getting very close bernie and it's also important to note that this the people who came here today all had some connection some special connections to either john or carolyn kennedy the uh carolyn kennedy strasberg was very intent that this be a private private and normal a memorial mass as possible and that people who came here have some connection with john he was he did not hold public office he was not a public official and indeed he was treated frequently as a public figure both john and caroline were famous simply because they were kennedy's from the time they were born not necessarily because of anything uh they did and throughout their lives they frequently found it difficult to find privacy bernie thank you chris black edward klein biographer of the kennedy family joining us now you know chris is talking about their seeking of privacy and yet they were so very public there was no way they could even at the moment of greatest uh publicity and and public presence if you will they had to be still seeking at least a

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they had to be still seeking at least a moment of privacy didn't they well you know i was struck by chris black's phrase private and normal this tension inside the family between the private and the public can be traced all the way back to 1953 when joseph p kennedy john kennedy's father insisted that there be a huge wedding between his son who he wanted to run for president and jackie bouvier and jackie bouvier's stepfather hugh d auchenklaus wanted to give the wedding at his estate in newport for two or three hundred people a small wedding joe sent his wife rose to see hugh diaconquost and at that time she laid down the law my husband insists that this be a huge wedding that the press be invited that every senator and every congressman be invited and in fact joe paid for the wedding and thousands of people showed up and it was the most public of kind of weddings and it was very much against the of the bouvier arkansas tradition that's ideal which is to live a private life so this push pull has been in effect for the last 40 or 50 years in this family we have some pictures that we want to show you people arriving at st thomas more church over the last hour

including caroline kennedy the sister of john kennedy jr daughter of the president this is caroline arriving about 20 minutes ago or so with her husband edwin schlossberg there is senator edward kennedy he will be one of two

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be one of two eulogists at this service which was scheduled to begin at 11 a.m eastern leigh radziwill sister of the late jacqueline kennedy onassis aunt of john kennedy and caroline robert kennedy jr son of robert the attorney general cousin to john kennedy jr as we watch these take pictures john f kennedy jr's early life as a toddler in the white house put him very much in the public eye and the public's heart for many the images from that era bring to mind a unique moment in this great nation's history a time of innocence and seemingly unlimited optimism here's cnn david insert when he was born in november 1960 his father had just been elected president less than two months later john f kennedy took office let the word go forth from this time and place to friend and foe alike that the torch has been passed to a new generation of americans for the first time since 1893 an infant lived in the white house there were children on the loose it livened up the place instantly the children dashing off to play out on the lawn leticia baldridge was jacqueline kennedy's social secretary at the white house they would streak by and of course they just made everyone so happy laughing oh there's john there's caroline roaring with laughter and realizing this was a house with children but the first lady worried that her children couldn't have a normal childhood if they became too famous so she fought for a measure of privacy there were journalists that wanted to photo them

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journalists that wanted to photo them and jackie was in touch with me practically every day saying stop it stop it stop it pierre salinger was president kennedy's press secretary but uh this was something that uh john kennedy uh had a different view uh you know when uh jackie would go away you know call me in he said now we want to do these photos we want these photos done in my room in my office because i think these photos will be very important for the kids and important for what became known as camelot the brief shining moment of youth and glamour that was the kennedy presidency as captured by look photographer stanley tretiak the president's desk was a playhouse for john jr even as kennedy salinger and others worried about the berlin crisis there were children underfoot cecil stoughton was the official white house photographer whose pictures ran in almost every major american publication on one particular occasion i was sitting outside of his office and i heard this noise he was clapping sitting by his desk clapping and the kids were dancing performing for him yeah trying to outdo each other in their pirouettes and steps and bouncing around and so i snapped off a series of 12 pictures at that time stoughton or a colleague were always there to capture the many spontaneous moments this was in the evening halloween evening and the president's still working at his desk then all of a sudden through the door comes these two little monsters one's a little monster and one's a little witch and though the president adored his daughter caroline there was a special kind of male bonding with his namesake son i think it was a mirror reflecting a mirror i think john kennedy's senior was looking at that little boy so full of love and pride and his son looked back at him in the same way he had a very close relationship the home movies released years later capture more of that same intimacy for three precious years the formative years say the experts

[00:32:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=1920s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=1920s)

years say the experts john f kennedy jr had a father and in the summer of 1963 there was something to look forward to as well a new sibling was on the way i think they they were thrilled about it and they saw their mother's tummy growing and they knew all about it but brother patrick died within days and i'm sure they were terribly sad but uh children get over things little children get over things a lot better than older children do today we live in a time when streets next to the white house must be blocked off to protect against truck bombs what's easy to forget is how different washington was back then before president kennedy was assassinated how different the nation was back when caroline kennedy was in ballet class at this school with my sister there was a feeling of safety and innocence one day my mother drove up here in her car and

opened the front door for my little sister instead a boy got in quickly retrieved by the secret service he was john kennedy jr it was a much nicer easier time and a very romantic time i missed the grace of the period how what how polite people were how life was much more serene a lot of that ended on that day in dallas parkland hospital has been advised to stand by for a severe gunshot wound the nation some said lost its innocence john kennedy jr lost his father he'd been taught how to salute by a military man and thus the most unforgettable image do you remember that i think that what happens is that you see an image so many times that you sort of begin to believe remember the image but i'm not sure i really do that day the day of the salute happened to be john junior's third birthday and despite it all his mother was determined that he should have a party upstairs at the white house when it was all over and the last limousine had pulled away she went upstairs and and they had a little private party with with her boy i think

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private party with with her boy i think that the most important thing is what happened two days after john kennedy was assassinated uh jackie suddenly came into my office and uh she said pierre there's only one thing in the world i can do now i've got to take care of these kids and i have to make sure that they do well if i don't do that they'll only be thinking about their father's death and this is something that i've got to do there was one more unforgettable image in the white house years cecil stoughton was there the last day of walking out of the white house with his mom hand in hand great picture glad i was there gary we have to interrupt you because uh father gallon it appears that the celebrants are coming out of the church yes they are and you saw that the one of the ministers there one of the servers was carrying the easter candle the candle which stands as the symbol of light in the midst of darkness the light that overcomes the darkness of life in the midst of death life that overcomes death that easter candle is always placed during a funeral mass at the uh coffin of the deceased and is carried in procession today um as a an echo of that moment of that practice in the catholic liturgy father gallon as people emerge from this church clearly one presumes they will be in the deepest of reflection senator edward kennedy coming out now and his wife victoria

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coming out now and his wife victoria father lapping charles o'byrne on the back they love him go ahead how how is one supposed to feel having been inside this church having heard the liturgy having heard the eulogies and leaving now well i think it brings together the pieces we've been discussing i think the big word for for this liturgy is realism it embraces the the uh bewildering reality of death but it embraces more than that it embraces the experience of life and so that that recognition of life that endures uh is what sparks people's hope and so they come from that church experience i believe uh filled with hope that is to say the expectation that life endures that life wins out over the experience of death we see you see that on their faces when they come they're profoundly reflective but but there's even some smiling of course we see a number of the kennedy cousins william kennedy smith chris lawford we see max kennedy one of us there on the left the gray hair one of the sons of robert kennedy and others we have been told that family members will be walking up 89th street to madison avenue walking north on madison avenue to 91st street cnn's christian amanpour who was a friend of john kennedy they knew one another in college

00:38:00 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=2280s>)

family members will be walking to the sacred heart school which caroline kennedy schlossberg attended there will be a reception there we're told and presumably that is where at least some of the people we see leaving st thomas more church are now making their way only 350 people or so were invited to this mass to celebrate the lives of john kennedy jr and carolyn kennedy there lee radziwill the aunt of john kennedy the sister of jacqueline kennedy coming out the door rory kennedy who was to have been married last saturday there she is behind eunice shriver her aunt there's rory on the left rory kennedy sarge shriver who also was at the public mass celebrated in manhattan last night you know bernie and judy this idea of a short walk is quite familiar the idea of a procession a way of saying goodbye all of us remember the scene at john kennedy's funeral of lyndon johnson robert kennedy ted kennedy charles de gaulle on that walk when robert

kennedy was laid to rest in washington there was a caravan of cars and even a press bus that took him passes we see arnold schwarzenegger maria shriver his wife kennedy-in-law but this idea of one farewell trip is very much a part of other unfortunately too many memories of other memorials and funerals that we've all lived through from the robert kennedy train the train and then they took they took a caravan past the department of justice passed the poor people's march that was then going on in washington in 1968 until they went to arlington there's robert f kennedy junior there sending over bobby patrick kennedy standing just next to

[00:40:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=2401s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=2401s)

patrick kennedy standing just next to him patrick uh being one of the three who were on the coast guard vessel when the remains of john kennedy and carolyn bessette kennedy and lauren bessette were brought to the surface of the sea ted kennedy jr just there with the curly brown hair had we saw senator edward kennedy his father and the father of patrick kennedy come out practically the first to emerge from this church here's bill vandenheuvel the white-haired gentleman who has been associated with the kennedy family as a campaign aide for i guess almost 40 years now almost unimaginable but that's what it is worked in the u.n for a while jeff you as a speechwriter uh for bobby kennedy and his senate days recognize some of these andrew cuomo uh secretary of housing urban development i think is right there well the whole thing that the kennedy family when you think about it people who have worked with them some who work with with many different generations of candidates and so you you actually see apart from everything else a kind of political history of the democratic party emerging from this church you know one campaign another campaign current and future campaigns they're senator chris god senator chris died right now there's senator john kerry the paul fellow with the consultant pepper hair who shares the initials of john f kennedy father gallon i'm wondering we saw senator edward kennedy give the father charles o'byrne a big slap warm slap on the back does a priest feel good after if one can feel good this after all is a celebratory mess does a priest feel good when he gets that kind of accolade following this very moving occasion well you remember that i i reacted also

[00:42:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=2522s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=2522s)

well you remember that i i reacted also responded i mean very positively to what senator kennedy was doing there in his greeting with uh charles o'byrne um yes a priest feels good about that if if people respond that way it's something of a message to the priest that well you didn't mess it up too bad you know on a scale of one to ten you are you know verging on five you're the only one here who could say this well i'm glad to uh it's hard work to do that stuff and i mentioned earlier before the task of connecting the dots that's an enormous challenge to do that and to try to help people see how god help them get in touch with the experience of god in their lives or if they're in touch with it to help them name it and to to see where it might be leading them this job of being a priest is um is a big challenge and anyone who thinks they've got it made needs to go back to preschool but i i keep thinking father about how difficult it is thinking just it was less than three years ago in september of 1996 when father o'byrne went to cumberland island off the coast of georgia to preside at their wedding and here he is the summer of 1999 and they're both gone they're both gone and it's been a terrible burden on charles o'byrne as well as for the rest of the family for sure but father o'byrne was so close to them that i could tell it in the slump of his walk that it was a great load on his shoulders he felt it deeply and i think that he

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he felt it deeply and i think that he managed to meet the challenge this morning judging from the reaction of those folks as they come out of mass in their response to him among those having heard father o'byrne i just saw rhode island senator claiborne fell diane sawyer of abc news as they continue leaving just on chance if you're just joining cnn's live coverage from new york city wherever you are around the world this is the exterior of saint thomas moore church where a celebratory mass has just ended and slowly people who were inside the specially invited guests are coming out very very slowly we have not seen the president his wife

and daughter yet bernie we want to remind our audience as i'm sure they know but we should remind them we're speaking so much about the kennedy family about john kennedy jr this was also a mass for carolyn besette kennedy they're surely are friends and family of carolyn kennedy in this crowd but because we don't know them don't recognize them we're not calling out their names as frequently as we are people who are familiar to us either kennedy family members or political figures and i i know that we we are mindful of that we know they are very much a part of this service she was every bit as much a part of this service as was her husband carolyn besette kennedy and also her sister lauren there will be a service for her in greenwich connecticut saturday for her sister lauren besette that's right at 7 pm on saturday that's right and many of the kennedy family members i've been told are going to attend that i know kathleen kennedy towns and among others plans to to be there among the representatives of the kennedy family

[00:46:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=2762s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=2762s)

representatives of the kennedy family the walk that we mentioned a moment ago walk up 89th street to madison avenue then on to the school the convent where caroline schlossberg caroline kennedy schlossberg attended school that walk is now getting underway but we are still showing you the exterior of saint thomas moore church senator alan simpson a republican retired from the united states senate has been head of the kennedy school of government at harvard university john kennedy was involved on the board of that school and he and alan simpson got to know one another better as a result of that we've heard we've heard in the past event about how even in this day and age friendships across party lines simpson and kennedy were political opposites but um friends as was utah senator orrin hatch a conservative who probably votes a different way from ted kennedy 90 of the time but has great personal fondness for him and vice versa this is one of those things about politics that keeps it keeps it civil you can imagine i think from looking at this crowd of people that these were literally hand selected these people were hand selected by caroline kennedy schlossberg and to the greatest degree and i think to somewhat lesser degree by senator ted kennedy these are people who knew john and carolyn um father gallon and ed klein i i'm thinking back uh over whom we've seen leave this church now we saw fatty kennedy leave very very early early on once the celebratory mass ended and i have not seen caroline come out could it be that she is inside the

[00:48:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=2880s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=2880s)

could it be that she is inside the church saying goodbye to people as they go past that could very well be the case i was watching carefully also and i did not see her exit the church either it may well be that she is visiting with people still in the body of the church or she may have exited through the sacristy i'm sure there's another way out there through the the sacristy is that small room that is on one side of the church where the where the vestments and other vessels are kept the the school at 91st street and 5th avenue to which everyone is now moving is a both a convent of the religious of the sacred heart the sisters and the school that they run and it's really a it's a beautiful building it's the old khan mansion there on the northeast corner of 91st and 5th and it's a place where the best kind of education is given uh to their students surely it's in an elegant part of town the sisters have never lost sight of their mission to help these young students grow in a holistic view of life they this those sisters are themselves so devoted to the social apostolate not only the educational apostolate but the social apostolate including the poor of our city i remember one time i've prayed the eucharist there in that convent chapel many many times with those sisters and i remember one time that the sisters invited dorothy day to be the homilist to that is to say through as i said earlier connect the dots uh for the sisters and their students and i'll tell you i was a bit nervous

[00:50:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3000s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3000s)

and i'll tell you i was a bit nervous before mass began as i went to meet dorothy day and say how do you do is what i'm going to do okay with you dorothy day was a very modest person but also a person of high intelligence and very clear focus and when i approached her respectfully asking her direction she looked at me as though i was the one who should be giving her direction and it wasn't it was a wonderful encounter but dorothy day the founders if you remember of the catholic worker movement so that's the kind of person that

those sisters invite to that school to form their students you know even as we talk uh father gallan about what a private personal event this is we do see some familiar faces from washington here we saw white house chief of staff john podesta we just saw paul begala very prominent political adviser to president clinton we've seen uh we mentioned uh alan simpson and his connection we saw john kenneth galbraith family friend uh the renowned economist but there have been ken duberstein a republican chief of staff toward the end of the reagan administration so it is a mixed political group mostly democrats to the extent these are political people here but there is a smattering of political faces and lives in this group well you should remember that you made the point i think that the john kennedy juniors magazine cast a very wide net he had invited former new york senator al damato to write an advice column for george magazine which which the former senator still does i'm at this uh he also at one point uh just now the new issue of george magazine is the comedy issue we were talking earlier about his attempt to

[00:52:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3120s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3120s)

talking earlier about his attempt to fuse entertainment and politics and i believe ben stiller the young comedian and actor is the guest editor so this was this was a very wide net that that john kennedy jr cast even as we do see the political figures here ed klein um this is a far more intimate affair is it not than perhaps some of the large kennedy events we've seen in the past yes judy i'm struck by the difference between this crowd and the crowd that attended jackie's funeral five years ago all funerals have a certain social quality to them and whereas jackie's funeral attracted fashion designers celebrities singers publishing executives some of the more famous celebrities of new york city this funeral for john and carolyn bessette kennedy seems to be a much much more low-key affair with only a smattering of familiar faces a much more intimate occasion it seems to me than jackie's funeral carolyn bessette kennedy we know had come out of the world of fashion she had been a publicist for calvin klein and i guess i was looking for calvin klein we were told at one point that he was the one who had brought her to new york from boston where she had worked she graduated from boston university uh i didn't see him it doesn't mean he wasn't here but it was it seems to me predominantly a washington uh crowd a crowd of people uh connected more to the kennedy side of uh of this family it does look as if the church is just about empty we didn't as bernie said a moment ago we haven't seen caroline kennedy schlossberg john kennedy's sister come out it may well be

[00:54:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3240s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3240s)

kennedy's sister come out it may well be that she left to a side entrance or left very early before [Music] we could see we yeah we're not mistaken this is still the president's limousine the policeman is blocking my view i can't tell whether the presidential flag and the the american flag are on the forward uh offenders i believe you're right that may well be the opinion if that's the case he makes he'll be inside with caroline indeed if he's here if this is motorcade and he's inside this church with mrs uh clinton chelsea we have to infer that they're spending time with the sister caroline kennedy sauceburg in fact we've been told that the clintons are not going to attend the reception uh a few blocks away at the sacred heart school and and the convent of the sisters of sacred heart that they are going to return to washington or at least leave the scene of the of the mass and go on about their schedule and also if they are inside this would be the opportunity for the clintons to present those three photo albums although senator edward kennedy has departed that john king told us about this would be the opportunity for the president mrs clinton and chelsea to pass on to the three recipients the bessette family caroline and also senator daddy kennedy these three marvelous photo albums some of which we saw a short time ago here on cnn as we consider this celebratory mass which just ended we think about 20 minutes or so ago we spent much of the last 20 minutes looking at the individuals who were part of the service by invitation only chris black is joining us chris uh what did you make of the of the people you saw leaving the church well judy i was told that the bessette fan the set freeman family worked very very closely with the kennedy family on the

[00:56:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3360s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3360s)

closely with the kennedy family on the guest list for this uh private massive resurrection memorial mass to john and carol and kennedy but it is very clear that the kennedy side uh dominated uh john uh john kennedy jr had 26 first surviving first cousins a number of aunts and uncles they those cousins have 54 children of their own a number of them were here today the besette freeman family is planning a separate service tomorrow in greenwich connecticut that will be their opportunity actually to have more of their side of the family so a number of them were here today but clearly this was dominated by the kennedys as as jeff greenfield noted you do get a extraordinary sense of the political legacy of this family there are a number of people who were associated with president kennedy's time in office ted soresen who was his chief of staff john kenneth galbraith robert mcnamara but it's also important to note that people were not invited to this massive celebration just because they were famous or because they had some kennedy connection they were invited because they had some connection with john jr and his wife carolyn so this was intended to be a very intimate affair senator ted kennedy was one of the first out of the church and he also uh delivered the principal eulogy a second eulogy was delivered by hamilton south on behalf of the besette freeman family judy and bernie chris the the set service that you beset freeman family service you mentioned that too it's in greenwich connecticut that too however is a small church we're told is that right that's exactly right i was also told early in the week judy by family friends that the besette freeman family were quite intent from the beginning in having their own service particularly to commemorate the memory of their daughter lauren obviously this has been this has been dominated by the john jr the fact that he was so famous uh this point point where you as you noted that you we forget that

[00:58:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3480s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3480s)

you as you noted that you we forget that this this service was intended also to uh recognize his wife carolyn uh so the family of uh carolyn and lauren besette from the beginning have been quite intense that they would have a service that was focused exclusively on their girls which will be tomorrow in greenwich connecticut at seven o'clock a private uh affair at christ church an episcopal church there judy and as we mentioned a number of the members of the kennedy family are planning to attend that uh to uh to represent jeff you know what we've been hearing a lot today appropriately about faith and consolation and what it means for families to be together but i can't help remembering a line that a civil rights leader offered i've been to too many funerals he said and here's ted kennedy coming out with carolyn kennedy that's his wife victoria kennedy and it may have been his daughter cara and her son it looked like teddy jr coming out right but i think what would be going through his mind is something along that line that that after the murder of yet another civil rights leader a young man got up and said you know i've just been to too many funerals and for all of the consolation of faith you can't help but think that that is going through the minds of a lot of members of the family and indeed an awful lot of americans and people around the world we've just seen this too many times i read a quote from someone who walked up i guess the kennedy family compound i think this was in the newspaper today usa today and they said yes god doesn't give us any greater burden than we are able to bear but how much more can one family handle [Music] father what do you say when that

[01:00:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3600s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3600s)

father what do you say when that question is posed how much more can this family bear um it's um it's the question that confronts what we were describing earlier as the most baffling and enigmatic moment of the of the human journey death i think the thing that can inspire people is um if if we're successful in helping people to detect in their lives other instances where there has been um for example in the midst of total darkness some life has broken through if if a person can find that in their own journey well that's their experience and nobody can take your experience away from you um and and um if a person has been for example in the midst of of what seems to be a prison of their own devising or of someone else's and some kind of freedom has broken through in the midst of that apparent slavery well well then you can conclude that there's a force stronger than the force of of slavery and a force stronger than the for than the power of darkness if that's been your experience we're now seeing uh president clinton chelsea clinton first lady hillary rodham clinton

leaving saint thomas moore church they have lingered longer than almost all the other participants in this service that lasted about an hour and a half they stayed inside almost an additional half an hour ed klein you had some thoughts on the point that father gallant was making i i live around the corner from

[01:02:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3721s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3721s)

i i live around the corner from saint thomas moore church and uh yesterday i went there to view all these people putting flowers on the church railing and i noticed there was a commemorative plaque there quoting saint thomas moore from his famous work utopia and the quote is you cannot abandon the ship in the storm because you cannot control the winds i think this is a great quote and a wonderful quote for the kennedys who despite all the storms i'm sure will not abandon the ship we still we continue to look for a sign of caroline kennedy schlossberg john kennedy's sister it may well be that she is still inside this church it may also be that she's chosen to go by some other route to the convent a few blocks away where the family is having a reception president clinton's motorcade now moving slowly away from the church earlier this morning he his wife his daughter flew aboard air force one and landed at jfk international airport and in marine one the helicopter brought the president and his party closer and they are preparing to go back to washington it's very warm here in new york city as you can see there is a breeze but it's very warm and sunny we uh we see uh again we're our cameras are trained on this church on 89th street most of the people virtually everyone who was in this service has left now to walk a few blocks away over to

[01:04:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3842s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3842s)

now to walk a few blocks away over to fifth avenue to a convent where the family is having a reception arthur schlesinger jr was one of the people in the service and i saw in a piece that he wrote this week for time magazine he remembered robert kennedy's reaction when his brother john was struck down by an assassin saying to a friend god it's so awful everything was really beginning to run so well why god and later robert kennedy wrote on a yellow piece of paper the innocent suffer how can that be possible and god be just and arthur schlesinger went on to say that robert kennedy found solace in escalus memorizing the lines from the agamemnon that he would use later when martin luther king jr was killed asleep cannot forget falls drop by drop upon the heart until it is healed by the awful i believe the phrase is the awful majesty of god he said that to a crowd of folks in the ghetto in indianapolis in april of 1968 uh that's right telling them the king had been killed and in our own despair against our will comes wisdom to us by the awful grace of god now here leaving the church these may be members of the choir we are told the old freedom choir was providing a large part of the music of this service wyclef john the hip-hop singer former member of the fuji's was a soloist here today still with the limousines and others you

[01:06:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3961s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=3961s)

still with the limousines and others you still get the sense they're waiting for someone to come out and our thanks very much to jeff greenfield our always capable analyst kennedy biographer edward klein and the professor of liturgy who shared so many many insights into catholicism with us today father john gallon this service has ended a little about half an hour ago the people who participated and moved on to a place not too far from here a convent a school where there's a reception we will be wrapping up our coverage special coverage of these services commemorating the lives celebrating the lives of john kennedy jr and carolyn bessette kennedy and also we're going to try mightily to get the texts of the eulogies that were delivered inside this impressive church today will try very very hard thank you very much for joining us to you uh including our international audience and we leave you with these impressions my father is part of the mythology of this country and he was also a very compelling political figure and i think certainly he was aware himself of the opportunities for politics to be both fun and serious the president of the united states is dead

[01:08:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4080s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4080s)

mrs kennedy took her two little children caroline and john jr to say a last farewell to their father i grew up most of my life in very ordinary circumstances i went to school i took the bus to school i went to high school i you know went to college i played sports in college i got a job when i went then i went to law school thank you pretty good pretty good when i worked for the da's office which is down in the trenches kind of job and so you know all the sort of theatrics really kind of played out beyond the confines of my life my mother passed on she was surrounded by her friends and her family and her books and we all feel lucky for that and now she's in god's hands we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the lord wherefore comfort one another with these words ladies and gentlemen meet george starting a magazine was a huge enterprise we were two years in starting this and a couple issues on down the line my last name isn't really going to matter my cousin john did tie the knot yesterday the faa called the tower at the martha's vineyard airport and inquired about the tail number of john f

[01:10:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4200s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4200s)

inquired about the tail number of john f kennedy junior's airplane we have found debris we have found luggage we were able to remove the wreckage and clear the victims [Music] very much at the heart of the catholic liturgy is the beautiful prayer for burial at sea and may the kennedys and the bessettes know that all of us are with them at this time in prayer [Music] i think that there's a sense of not worrying too much about things that you can't control just sort of living your life and doing what you feel and where your interests take you it's complicated and it makes for a rich and complicated life but that's i think part of the puzzle to figure out in my life [Music] never thought anything mattered more than their children i put my name to the audience really quickly uh sharing thoughts today barbara he was born into the spotlight he accepted that place in his life very gracefully with a lot of candor he lived his life to the fullest and gave it his best as a human being lord i just wanted to make the comment that from looking at all the footage that we've seen of jk jr and and like they said the human side of him that's why people adore him and that's why people can identify with him because he didn't see

[01:12:02 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4322s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4322s)

identify with him because he didn't see himself as quote unquote kennedy or someone above the people he was one of the people and people could identify with him thanks joining us now is richard mahoney author of sons and brothers the days of jack and bobby kennedy richard was the jfk scholar at the university of massachusetts and the jfk presidential library richard thank you for joining us thank you bobby we talked a bit the other day about legacy and he's sadly old enough to have had one of his own just yet but of course he did by way of his family what was it and what made it so unique well his legacy was of course as you just said his father's legacy the fact that his father was cut down by a bullet he saluted on the day his father was buried and then the question was would he become uh you know a president or at least a politician and so the question that remains is a legacy and that is what might have been and what do you think um his leanings in that direction might have been i think they were definitely in the direction of running i saw him in at a reception in boston in 1996 and as somebody who's been in politics myself as a candidate i certainly detected a harder edge sort of an inquisitive quality that you associate with somebody who might run for politics and i think the fact that his mother had passed on the fact that he had gotten married to someone who was a powerful personality and a as well as a loving person in her own right i think and and the george editorship as uh as danny miller just said i think these things drew him closer and closer to the water's edge whether or not he would have run i don't know but he was his father's son as well as his mother's son and these kennedys are basically for better or worse they're warriors they want to they want to go into combat they want to get out there and they'll take the risk

[01:14:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4440s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4440s)

get out there and they'll take the risk what is it about these kennedy men that so fascinate us and fascinate us and then the women they marry for that matter but what is it about them this lust for life and power and and public service well they they're i think a clan of warriors i really do uh and we become something of the nation of shopkeepers and i think that's one of the reasons why they're so controversial and uh it's very rare that you get somebody in politics who's willing to die for it and understands that might be the price of it and i think the kennedys in addition to being uh willing to pay the price bobby um have been romanced by death one of the things that i've not uh heard or seen very much of is the fact that john f kennedy johnny kennedy junior's father had a very um you know thought death was beautiful particularly early death and didn't necessarily see it at all as a curse jack kennedy uh had his father joe steering his political career um where would that would that have come from uncle ted for for john if he'd taken the political path and and could he been could he really have been elected president was he smart enough that he know the political game well enough well those are excellent questions i think joe kennedy was abs and bobby kennedy two very powerful willful figures uh above and below john f kennedy i don't think john f kennedy ever would have been elected president had it not been pronounced to extremely forceful personality i think senator kennedy senator ted kennedy is a strong figure but in part because he's in politics not apart from it he really can't sacrifice totally for on behalf of somebody else somebody else in the family so i think that um it's an unknown but i would say this it seemed that uh jfk junior was taking a unique tack he was staying away from a lot of

[01:16:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4560s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4560s)

tack he was staying away from a lot of the negative preserving a private compartment and at the same time positioning himself at a very high level i mean he would have come in at the senate level or the governor level uh if he had and i think that was smart he may have been a lot smarter than we thought a couple comments from the audience lamb um i think that uh we don't have as many leaders as we really think we do in america and it's unfortunate that we lost the person that should have been a leader i think we all as americans kind of knew that he was passing his time doing his magazine and and trying to keep us busy and keep us off the whole maybe underlying meaning of what he was trying to do and i truly hope that as americans we find some more humans that are leaders that really step up and say you know what i'm going to take over and i'm going to take control of what's going on well said well said i think gut that's what these guys have i mean beyond uh you know their success or failure which is really quite mixed when you look at the record what these people have they're just strong people they have a lot of fight in them and i think a lot of times we need that we need drama we need passion what would his uh mother and father have wanted for him do you think and would that have been different well that's a good question i think his mother clearly wanted him to stand aside from the deadly arena of politics he was very very clear about that but his father knew one thing that is when one kennedy died the other took his place john f kennedy never intended to go into politics in many ways he was not fit for politics very sick guy kind of a bookish guy but when his older brother joe died in 1944 he stepped up and it was very clear that when he was done one way or the other whether it would be truncated by by some event such as happened in dallas or he served his term another kennedy would step up namely his younger brother bobby and then ted so at least on the male

[01:18:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4681s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4681s)

so at least on the male side there's a soldier aspect that this is combat when your time comes uh you step to the step to the line lando in the audience yeah bobby i tend to believe that children are fear our extension of our parents and as such for those people who put negative wisdom on the media i i say uh they're wrong because when president kennedy stated that life is not fair despite of all the odds uh john junior showed the core values of honor courage and commitment for the young world young people of the world to to follow through or emulate and so i think this is the beginning of a more positive constructive and helpful presentation of of any particular reporting of media and the end of negativism as far as media presentation and cnn as a leader of news and entertainment is leading the pack in this entire scenario so five days there is not enough days to consider good things of someone who has public community service orlando we

appreciate it we appreciate your comments we'll uh take a break and continue in just a moment [Music] my name is heather from american university and i think that through victory scandals and tragedy the kennedy legacy will live on in the nation's memory for generations past

[01:20:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4800s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4800s)

nation's memory for generations past present and future you already know how important calcium is for your bones to admiration society [Music] memorial show this was private but elsewhere people paid respect in their own ways children in a violin group mourned with their music on a street a block away from the church others stood in the blazing sun on street corners i wanted to pay my respects to my memory of the kennedy family and to the legacy that jfk jr is leaving in america and to the world at john and carolyn kennedy's apartment in manhattan's tribeca neighborhood hundreds of people continue to leave flowers notes and candles in front of their door at the offices of george magazine people also left flowers and tried to find words to explain how they felt it just brings tears to my eyes to think that someone like this has to leave the world in order for us to reflect the 350 invited guests hugged and cried as they left the memorial which was performed by the same priest who married john and carolyn kennedy in 1996. senator kennedy talked about their relationship in his eulogy and for a thousand days he was a husband who adored the wife who became his perfect soul mate john's father taught us all the reach for the moon and the stars john did that and all he did and he found his shining star when he married carolyn besette speaking for others at the mass senator kennedy added we dared to think that john kennedy would live to comb gray hair with his beloved carolyn by his side but like his father he had every gift but length of years gary tuchman cnn new york the united states is paying tribute to john f kennedy jr especially in places closely associated with the kennedy name in washington where he spent his youngest years the white house flag flies at half staff

[01:22:01 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4921s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=4921s)

flies at half staff in boston where the family's political tradition began expressions of grief and sympathy at the kennedy library where mourners have filled several condolence books and in new york a service at a harlem church organizers say it is a tribute to not only jfk jr but also to the kennedy family civil rights legacy in a little less than 30 minutes from now the wreckage of john kennedy's plane is expected to arrive at the newport naval station in rhode island carl rochelle is in middletown rhode island with the latest on the crash investigation carl judy this is where the next step in the investigation will take place the uss grass the navy salvage ship that has been working off the coast of martha's vineyard trying to remove the wreckage from the bottom of the atlantic ocean in that area as you noted expected about a half hour from now it will come in at this pier here it is the newport naval station pier 2 and that's where we have been told expected out at the far end of the pier well away from where we are there is a little bit of fog moving in don't know if that will slow the process a lot don't know exactly how much we're going to be able to see here but we are in position the grass will be carrying the fuselage that was picked up we know on the same day that the fuselage area was found and the bodies were found it also will be carrying the 300 horsepower engine that pipe powered the piper saratoga that john kennedy was flying the wings we know are have been found and located expect also the tail section known as a commonly as the tail feathers the elevators rudder all of that that material will be taken from here by surface transportation likely a flatbed truck because it really is not an overall large plane compared with some of the things like a 727 and 747 hardly half the wing of a 747 would contain all the material that you'll find there it will be put on surface transportation and taken to the coast guard air station on cape cod it will be laid out in the form that

[01:24:00 \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=5040s\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=US-SNi8Cs0w&t=5040s)

cod it will be laid out in the form that it would have been in when the plane was in one piece and the investigators for the national transportation safety board will study that as they try to glean clues telling them more about what caused john kennedy's play john f

END

